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Title: Need to safeguard the life and livelihood of people living in and around the Bodi area of Western Ghats selected for the proposed India-based Neutrino Observatory.

ADV. JOICE GEORGE (IDUKKI): The proposed India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO), the largest underground science laboratory in the world, is coming up in Bodi Hills of the Western Ghats which is in the highly deformed portion of the Suruli ductile Shear Zone. The proposed observatory will cause heavy blasting and dislocation of rocks underneath the Bodi Hills. There are many reservoirs within 50 km radius of the proposed site. The people in the region are worrying as the blasting of ones of rock will severely affect the aquifer, the rivers and the reservoirs. Moreover, the local population is worrying about radiation hazards too. Several agitations have reportedly taken place in the area against the INO project. Till date, there is no consultation with the neighbouring state Kerala about the project, even though the INO site was on Kerala – Tamil Nadu border. Hence, I urge upon the Government to intervene to safeguard the life and livelihood of people in the area.

14.17 hrs